

January 15, 2018

Fire Chief William Pernet
North Whatcom Fire Rescue
4142 Britton Loop
Bellingham, Washington 98226

Fire Chief Pernet:

This letter is to update you on the status of the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) recent evaluation of the fire protection capabilities, as they relate to fire insurance rating, of your community. As indicated in our June 26, 2017 initial letter, the City of Blaine and Whatcom County Fire District 21 are each currently a Protection Class 4 and 5 respectively with a possible decline in Protection Class from our recent evaluation. We wish to inform you that the changes you implemented in your improvement plan dated July 19, 2017, have retained the Protection Classification (PC) for the City of Blaine and Whatcom County Fire District 21 as well as Whatcom County Fire District 4. The issues with the number of volunteer firefighters at Fire Stations 11 and 70 have also been resolved.

The City of Blaine (PC 4), Whatcom County Fire District 21 (PC 5) and Whatcom County Fire District 4 (PC 5) with their corresponding Protection Classes will apply to properties located within five road miles of a recognized responding fire station and having standard hydrant distribution and water supply. Properties not meeting these requirements will receive a different protection class rating. Protection Class ratings for individual dwelling and commercial properties are available by calling WSRB Customer Service at (206) 217-0101 or emailing customerservice@wsrb.com.

The City of Blaine, Whatcom County Fire District 21 and Whatcom County Fire District 4 were also evaluated for WSRB Tender Credit, and it was determined that the community will retain this PC rating credit.

We wish to thank you, Assistant Chief Joe Noonchester, Division Chief Henry Hollander and your staff for the cooperation during the evaluation.

Please find enclosed a copies of the new Protection Class Reports. These reports show the various items evaluated and points associated with each item. The points total for all items determines the Protection Class of the community.

This survey was not conducted for property loss prevention or for life safety purposes. The purpose was to gather information needed to determine a fire insurance relevant Public Protection Classification that may be used to develop fire insurance rates or loss costs. Our evaluation criteria incorporate many national recognized standards, such as those developed by

NFPA and AWWA, and has been filed with and approved by the Washington State Office of Insurance Commissioner.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Daryl Girus
Fire Protection Analyst
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CC: Mayor of the City of Blaine
Whatcom County Fire District 21 Commissioners
Whatcom County Fire District 4 Commissioners